

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 10154 011109Z

12

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 SWF-01 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-01 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01

CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-01 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01

OMB-01 L-02 AGR-05 TAR-01 /069 W

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R 010952Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9237

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

UFHBG/AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG 36

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 10154

BRUSSELS ALSO FOR USMISSION EC; PARIS ALSO FOR USMISSION OECD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, PFOR, EEC, IR

SUBJECT: RELATIONS BETWEEN THE EC AND IRAN

REF: STATE 241510; STATE 256130

1. I DISCUSSED THE SUBJECT OF IRAN'S RELATIONS WITH
THE EC WITH MINISTER OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND FINANCE
ANSARY EVENING OF NOV 30. ANSARY SAID THAT THE
GOI AGREES WITH OUR GENERAL OBJECTIVES OF LIBERALIZING
WORLD TRADE ON A NON-DISCRIMINATORY BASIS THROUGH
MULTILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS. HE DOES NOT, HOWEVER,
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UNDERSTAND THE EC'S "MEDITERRANIAN POLICY" WHICH
SEEMS TO BE MAKING EXCEPTIONS CONSTANTLY.

HE NOTED, FOR EXAMPLE,
THAT IT HAD MADE AN EXCEPTION FOR LEBANON, THEN BECAUSE OF
ITS "CONSCIENCE", IT MADE AN EXCEPTION FOR ISRAEL, THEN
"TO BALANCE THINGS OFF" IT MADE AN EXCEPTION FOR EGYPT.
NOW, HE SAID, AN EXCEPTION IS BEING MADE FOR JORDAN,
WHICH HE NOTED RATHER WRYLY WAS SOMEWHAT REMOVED FROM THE
MEDITERRANEAN. WHY, UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, HE ASKED
RHETORICALLY, DRAW THE LINE AT IRAN? SINCE EC POLICY SEEMS
TO HAVE NO RHYME, REASON, OR HARMONY IN ANY EVENT, IRAN
DOES NOT UNDERSTAND US OPPOSITION TO THE EC GIVING
PREFERENTIAL STATUS TO IRAN AS WELL. HE SAID THAT IF
THE US WAS REALLY SO INTERESTED IN PRESERVING EC PURITY
THAT IT OUGHT TO PUSH AND PUSH HARD FOR THE ABOLISHMENT
OF ALL PREFERENTIAL ARRANGEMENTS THAT HAD BEEN MADE OUTSIDE
THE EC COMMUNITY AND NOT JUST SINGLE OUT IRAN.

2. ANSARY MADE HIS POINTS FIRMLY BUT WITHOUT RANCOR OR
HOSTILITY. HE CONCLUDED BY NOTING THAT IRAN'S BASIC
STRATEGY WILL BE TO PURSUE PREFERENTIAL ARRANGEMENTS BILATER-
ALLY IMPLYING CONCENTRATION OF ARRANGEMENTS WITH GERMANY AND
THE NETHERLAND IN THE FIRST INSTANCE. TRADE POLICY, HE SAID,
MAY BE DISCUSSED IN BRUSSELS BUT ECONOMIC POLICY
IS MADE IN NATIONAL CAPITALS.
MIKLOS

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